LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) In an electronic device having a database of records of different category types, a method of displaying information comprising the steps of:

a) receiving an indication from a user that selects a first category type of said different category types;

b) indexing a sort table with said first category type to obtain a first sort field for said first category type, said sort table associating each category type of said different categories with its own sort field, wherein a sort field for each category type is under user control and wherein said first category type has a sort field different from that of another category type;

c) sorting records of said first category type into an order that is determined according to said first sort field to produce a first list;

d) displaying a portion of said records in said order on a display screen of said electronic device, wherein said portion displayed is formatted automatically with information from said sort field on the left-hand side of said display screen as viewed by said user, wherein by selecting said sort field said user controls said order in which said records are displayed;

e) displaying a second list comprising sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein said second list comprises a sort field for each of said different categories including said first sort field for said first category type;

f) receiving an indication from said user that selects said first sort field;

g) in response to step f), displaying a third list comprising sort fields that can be used instead of said first sort field, wherein said user can replace said first sort field with a sort field selected from said third list.

2.   (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 1 and further comprising the steps of:

receiving another indication from said user that selects a second category type of said different category types;

indexing said sort table with said second category type to obtain a second sort field for said second category type;

sorting records of said second category type by said second sort field obtained to produce a fourth list; and

displaying in list order a portion of said fourth list on said display screen.

3.   (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said electronic device is a palm-sized computer system.

4.   (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said electronic device is a wireless telephone.

5.   (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said database is a database of contact information comprising records each having fields defining a name, an address and a telephone number.

6.   (Canceled).

7.   (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said step a) comprises the step of said user depressing a designated button on said electronic device.

8. (Previously Presented) In a hand-held personal digital assistant having an address database of contact records of different category types, a method of displaying information comprising the steps of:

a) receiving an indication from a user that selects a first category type of said different category types;

b) indexing a sort table with said first category type to obtain a first sort field for said first category type, said sort table associating each category type of said different categories with its own sort field, wherein a sort field for each category type is under user control and wherein said first category type has a sort field different from that of another category type;

c) sorting contact records of said first category type into an order that is determined according to said first sort field to produce a first list;

d) displaying a portion of said contact records in said order on a display screen of said hand-held personal digital assistant, wherein said portion displayed is formatted automatically with information from said sort field on the left-hand side of said display screen as viewed by said user, wherein by selecting said sort field said user controls said order in which said contact records are displayed;

e) displaying a second list comprising sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein said second list comprises a sort field for each of said different categories including said first sort field for said first category type;

f) receiving an indication from said user that selects said first sort field;

g) in response to step f), displaying a third list comprising sort fields that can be used instead of said first sort field, wherein said user can replace said first sort field with a sort field selected from said third list.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 8 and further comprising the steps of:

receiving another indication from said user that selects a second category type of said different category types;

indexing said sort table with said second category type to obtain a second sort field for said second category type;

sorting contact records of said second category type by said second sort field obtained to produce a fourth list; and

displaying in list order a portion of said fourth list on said display screen.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said hand-held personal digital assistant is a palm-sized computer system.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said hand-held personal digital assistant is a wireless telephone.

12. (Original) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said address database comprises contact records each having fields defining a name, an address and a telephone number.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said step a) comprises the step of said user depressing a designated button on said hand-held personal digital assistant.

15. (Previously Presented) An electronic device comprising a processor coupled to a bus, a display coupled to said bus and a memory coupled to said bus, said memory having a database of records of different category types and instructions implementing a method of displaying information comprising the steps of:

a) receiving an indication from a user that selects a first category type of said different category types;

b) indexing a sort table with said first category type to obtain a first sort field for said first category type, said sort table associating each category type of said different categories with its own sort field, wherein a sort field for each category type is under user control and wherein said first category type has a sort field different from that of another category type;

c) sorting contact records of said first category type into an order that is determined according to said first sort field to produce a first list;

d) displaying a portion of said contact records in said order on said display screen, wherein said portion displayed is formatted automatically with information from said sort field on the left-hand side of said display screen as viewed by said user, wherein by selecting said sort field said user controls said order in which said records are displayed;

e) displaying a second list comprising sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein said second list comprises a sort field for each of said different categories including said first sort field for said first category type;

f) receiving an indication from said user that selects said first sort field;

g) in response to step f), displaying a third list comprising sort fields that can be used instead of said first sort field, wherein said user can replace said first sort field with a sort field selected from said third list.

16.   (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

receiving another indication from said user that selects a second category type of said different category types;

indexing said sort table with said second category type to obtain a second sort field for said second category type;

sorting records of said second category type by said second sort field obtained to produce a fourth list; and

displaying in list order a portion of said fourth list on said display screen.

17.   (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said electronic device is a palm-sized computer system.

18.   (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said electronic device is a wireless telephone.

19.   (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said database is a database of contact information comprising records each having fields defining a name, an address and a telephone number.

20.   (Canceled).

21.   (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said step a) of said method comprises the step of said user depressing a designated button on said electronic device.